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PORTAGE MIDDLE SCHOOL.
[YEARBOOK]



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1973 . . . A Year to Remember



Dr. Hugh Kariger

With many years of experience as a teacher and principal, Dr. Hugh Kariger is well qualified to make decisions necessary for administering a large school. Since Portage opened, Dr. Kariger has done a fine job of making this a school that students, faculty, and he can be proud of.



Mrs. Scott finds the bookwork never ends

Portage . . . The place to be happy . . . or mad . . . or sad . . .
 To learn . . . think . . . grow . . . to be together . . . or alone . . .
 The place to win . . . or lose . . . to pass . . . or fail . . .
 To be proud of yourself . . . or to hate yourself . . .
 To have fun in gym . . . to suffer through math class . . .
 To get renamed by the computer . . . or to get programmed the wrong way . . .
 To blow your horn in music . . . or to sketch people in art . . .
 To learn to be organized . . . or to become firmly entrenched as a pack rat . . .
 To do a successful experiment . . . or to cause a fire . . .
 To groan in the morning and scream with joy in the afternoon
 To read a school newspaper . . . or a yearbook



Conferences play an important part in Portage routine. Mr. Middleton and Mrs. Murtaugh check with Mr. Schaffer on class activities.



Floyd Middleton

Floyd Middleton, assistant principal, acts as Dr. Kariger's righthand man. Working together as a team, they have made Portage one of the best junior high schools in the city. Mr. Middleton also has teaching experience, part of it in a Portage classroom.



Portage has its share of trophies too

A Place to Be With...

1756356

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LEFT TO RIGHT:

Kevin Adam
Maria Aguirre
Greg Allen
Dawn Alles
Jerry Amsden
Doris Anderson
Frank Anderson
Gillis Arend

Eddie Arrington
Jantina Baade
Betsy Barber
Ruth Bauman

Nancy Beadie
Sherry Beck

Kevin Becraft
Pamela Belcher

Linda Bell
Karen Bennett
Michael Benson
David Beutler
Michael Bishop
Connie Black
Robert Blough

Connie Bolinger
Barbara Brown

Carlotta Brown
Gail Brown





LEFT TO RIGHT:

Herman Brown
William Brown
Debbie Bryan
Karen Bryson
Charlene Burns
Pamela Burns
Neal Butler

Barbara Byers
Darrell Byrd
Irene Byrd
Janet Cady

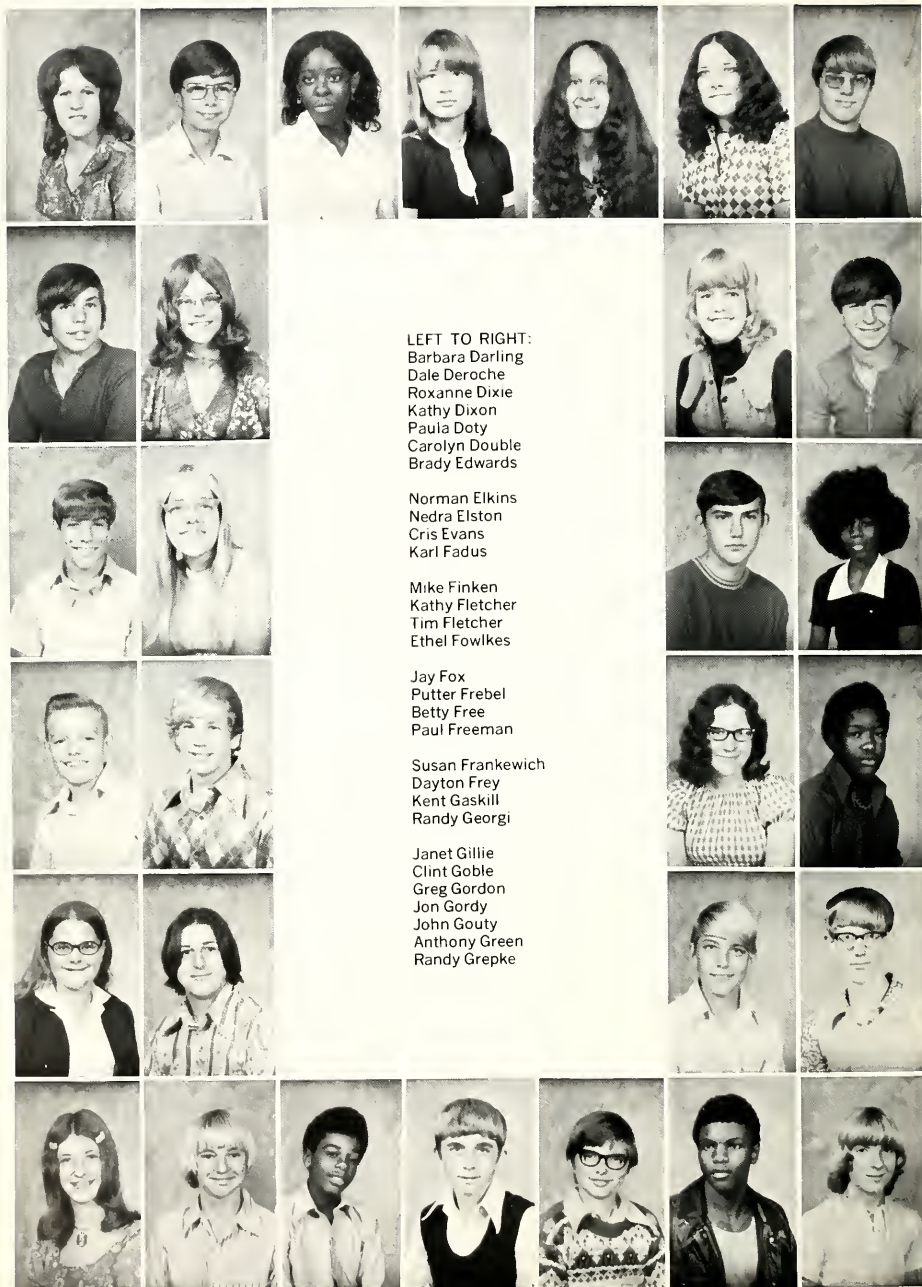
Rick Capps
Betty Carrion

David Chamberlain
Ted Chase

Maxine Christman
David Chrzan
Ronald Coe
Roberta Cohen
Mattie Cole
Shawn Collier
Roger Conrad

Steve Cook
Princilla Crooms

Gary Curry
Michael Darby



LEFT TO RIGHT:

Barbara Darling
Dale Deroche
Roxanne Dixie
Kathy Dixon
Paula Doty
Carolyn Double
Brady Edwards

Norman Elkins
Nedra Elston
Cris Evans
Karl Fadus

Mike Finken
Kathy Fletcher
Tim Fletcher
Ethel Fowlkes

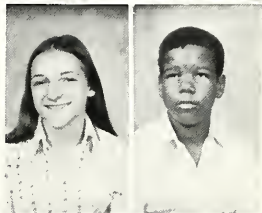
Jay Fox
Putter Frebel
Betty Free
Paul Freeman

Susan Frankewich
Dayton Frey
Kent Gaskill
Randy Georgi

Janet Gillie
Clint Goble
Greg Gordon
Jon Gordy
John Gouty
Anthony Green
Randy Grepke



LEFT TO RIGHT:
John Gresham
Gary Grose
Susan Gulker
Phil Gutman
William Harding
Barb Harman
Art Hartsough



Penny Hartsough
Pat Harvey
Debbie Hatton
Anthony Headen



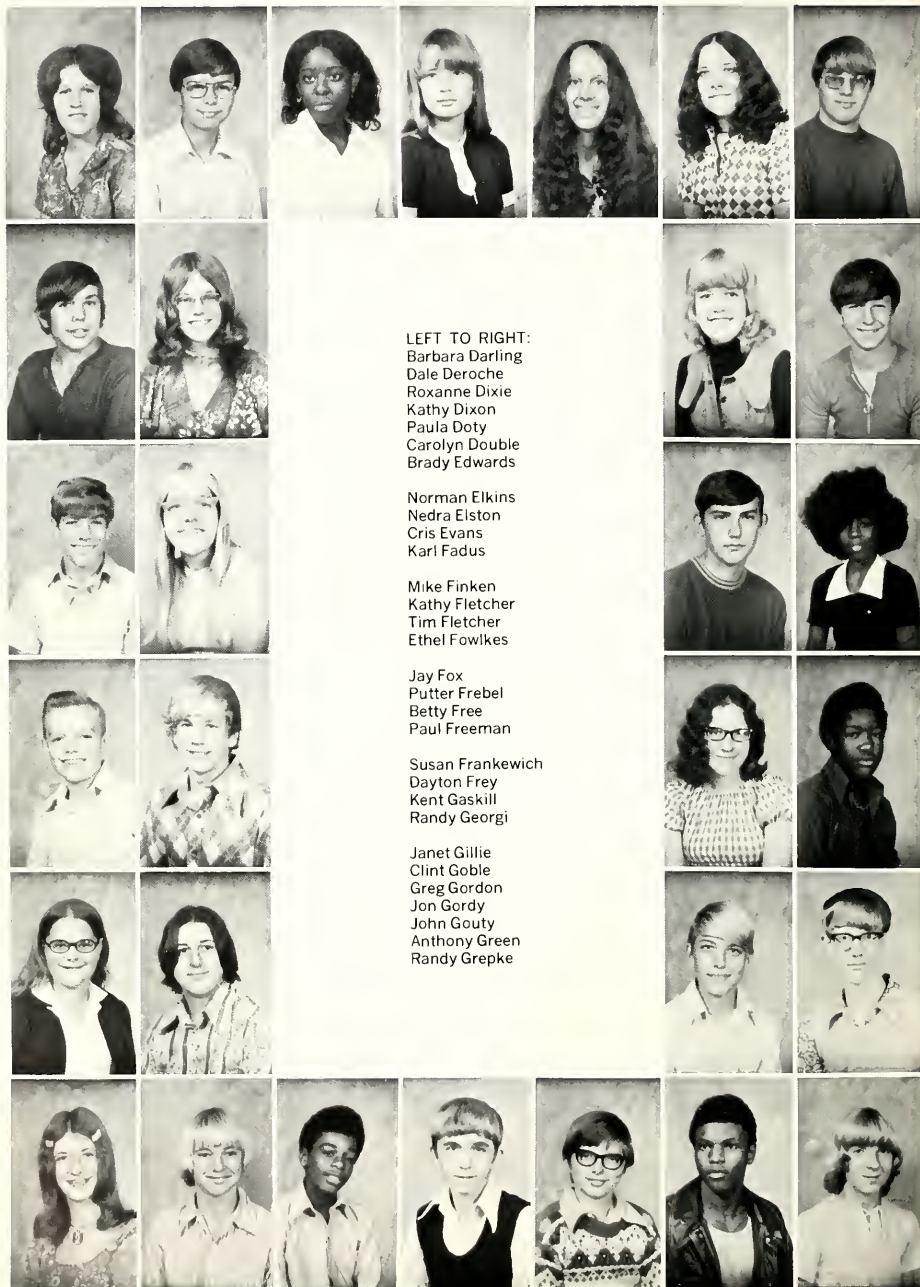
Tina Hinton
Mike Hitchcock
Tony Hofmann
Mike Horstmeyer
Jamie Hoy
Katy Hulse
Melissa Hunter



Sheila Jeffery
Kevin Jellison
Audrey Johnson
Claudia Johnson

Mike Johnson
Steve Johnson
Michelle Jordan
Colleen Kelly





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Barbara Darling
Dale Deroche
Roxanne Dixie
Kathy Dixon
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Brady Edwards

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Nedra Elston
Cris Evans
Karl Fadus

Mike Finken
Kathy Fletcher
Tim Fletcher
Ethel Fowlkes

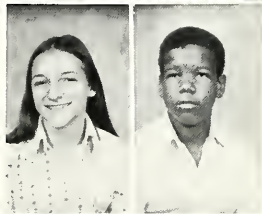
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Art Hartsough



Penny Hartsough
Pat Harvey
Debbie Hatton
Anthony Headen



Jeff Heller
Danny Hermes
Mark Hershberger
Mitzi Hicks



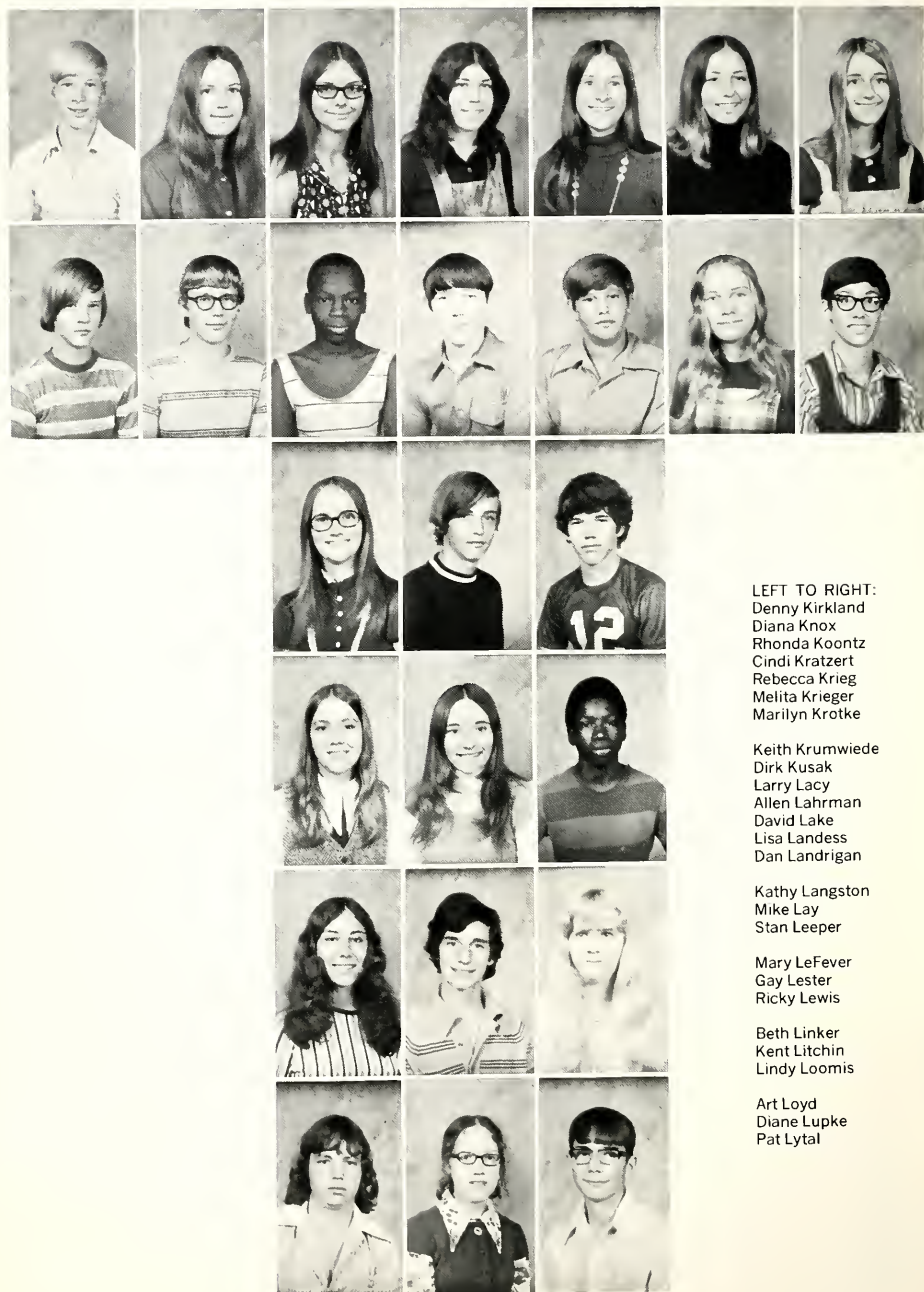
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Tony Hofmann
Mike Horstmeyer
Jamie Hoy
Katy Hulse
Melissa Hunter



Sheila Jeffery
Kevin Jellison
Audrey Johnson
Claudia Johnson

Mike Johnson
Steve Johnson
Michelle Jordan
Colleen Kelly





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Denny Kirkland
Diana Knox
Rhonda Koontz
Cindi Kratzert
Rebecca Krieg
Melita Krieger
Marilyn Krotke

Keith Krumwiede
Dirk Kusak
Larry Lacy
Allen Lahrman
David Lake
Lisa Landess
Dan Landrigan

Kathy Langston
Mike Lay
Stan Leeper

Mary LeFever
Gay Lester
Ricky Lewis

Beth Linker
Kent Litchin
Lindy Loomis

Art Loyd
Diane Lupke
Pat Lytal



LEFT TO RIGHT:
Mark McCombs
Lorena Mabe
Steven Macias
Scott Mackenzie
Beatrice Malone
Gary Mann
Steven Manning

Kim Markey
Michele Martin
Raphael Martin
Bill Mazelin

Jay Merz
Louie Mespell
Barry Miller
Carol Miller



Kathy Mills
Kerry Mills
Kevin Mills
Robert Mitchell
Ann Momper
Jeff Moore
Julianne Morken

David Morningstar
Susan Morningstar
Yvette Morrill
Linda Morsches

Tina Mudd
David Mudrack
Gordon Murphy
Linda Murriel





LEFT TO RIGHT:

Kari Myers
Michael Myers
Verne Myers
Jonny Nash
Gail Nichols
John Norton
Leslie Novitsky

Mark Nuttle
Andrea Padgett
Greg Parrish
Tamara Parrish

Lenora Perez
Cardell Perry

Jacques Perry
Kathy Petgen
Sheryl Phelps
Pauline Powell
Carol Quickery

Larry Raber
Susan Railey
Janet Rediger

Debra Redman
Jim Reichard
Martha Renner
Karen Richard
David Richey
Barb Ridenour
Loretta Robertson





LEFT TO RIGHT:

Danny Rogers
Julie Ross
Curtis Roth
Kathleen Royse
Mary Rush
Greg Ryder
David Saylor

Robert Scott
Glenna Shepherd
Greg Shepherd
Geoffrey Sills

Lonna Slatten
Greg Smith
Susan Smith
Terry Smith
Linda Smyser

Faith Speicher
Norman Spice

Janene Springer
Carrie Stackhouse
Annette Stalling
Carole Stanley
Janice Stefanski
Bertha Stephens
Gregory Stephens

Kevin Stephenson
Sarah Stewart
Debbie Temple
Curtis Thompson
David Toam
Sandy Tompkins



Janet Tolliver
Kathryn Tonn
Verna Turflinger
Patricia Tyson
Lonnie VanDyne
Selma Vaughn

Robert Vranjes
Mike Ward
Beth Wasson
Anne Watters
Robin Watters
Rosemary Weber



Diana Whipp
Clara Williams
Johnnie Williams
Levon Williams
Ronnie Wilson
Tammy Wilson

Jeff Wittbislager
Candy Wood
Sandy Wood
Jay Woods
John Wright
Kim Yarman



Marilyn York
Donald Yount
Jerry Amsden
Connie Barnett
Cindy Burley
Scott DeWolfe

Mary Johnson
Donald Kelly
Judy McPherson
Shirley Perrine
Ken Prince
Pauline Sizemore



Eighth Graders Won't Be Middlemen for Long

Monica Adams
Kathy Allen
Linda Alvarez
Kelly Auer
Lawrence Bade
Bryon Baker



Richard Bates
Karen Baumgartner
Amos Belcher
Janice Bell
Mike Berry
Delbert Bickel

Rex Bloemker
Claudia Bolinger
Carola Bonar
Georgette Bonifas
Dennis Booker
Emma Bostic



Bryan Bouey
Robert Boussum
Michael Brewer
Idabelle Brooks
Ann Brown
Charles Brown

Dorothy Brown
Gregory Brown
Mark Brown
Pamela Buckmaster
Bill Bunch
Cathy Bunker



Cindy Burnett
Dana Burnett
Dawn Byers
John Cady
Bill Campbell
Nancy Campbell

Darrell Carter
Cathy Chase
Rosemary Chavez
Elizabeth Clark
Jerome Cobb
Barry Cohen



Kenneth Coker
Leslie Collier
Martha Conrad
Timmy Cour
Melanie Cox
John Crawford

Sheryl Crawford
Ronald Crismore
Tom Cross
Donald Culpepper
Ronald Culpepper
Marvin Curry



Sherry Daniel
Deborah Deaton
Carl Deck
Helen DeRose
Pam Doherty
Benny Douglas

James Dowdell
Janet Dowling
Michael Duguid
Steve Duray
Mark Dwight
Dawn Ebnit



Herbert Ellis
Mike Engle
Renee English
Delia Evans
Ray Fahlsing
Margo Filley

Linda Fincher
Carol Fishman
Evelyn Fowkes
Tonya Frewer
Mark Fritz
Everett Frye





Bill Nichols
Kathy O'Connor
Cheryl Omo
Ted Ornas
Tom Osborne
Ann Oswalt

Theresa Parrish
Jim Patterson
Tammy Peconge
Doug Pelz
Sharon Perrine
Doug Peters



Brenda Petre
Leonard Pitman
Janice Powell
Rebecca Purk
Rick Ramer
Dennis Raney

Sandy Ratliff
Angela Rhodus
Buff Rice
Denise Richard
David Robinson
Tim Roop



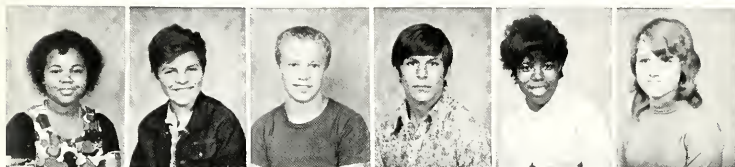
John Rothgeb
Mike Rush
Brian Russell
Michael Ryan
Leisa Ryder
Tammy Sadler

Pamela Schrader
Rick Shaw
Jeff Shifflett
Rebecca Shifflett
Howard Sims
Steven Sims



Virginia Sites
Robert Slater
Tracie Smyers
Emmett Sowles
Tim Springer
Tony Standiford

Robert Stanley
Ernest Starks
James Stengel
Denise Stephans
Julia Stephens
Jacqueline Stewart



Pam Stewart
Edward Strack
Daniel Straub
Chip Strawbridge
Vivian Stroud
Yvonne Swangin

Pamela Swick
Kevin Swihart
Deborah Szink
Mary Temple
Bambi Templeton
Doug Thornton



Tina Todoran
Robert Tolliver
Lavone Townsend
Matt Tyler
Sheryl VanZile
Gilberto Vasquez

Stephen Vaughn
Vance Veale
Cynthia Vest
Robert Wagner
Stella Walker
John Walls



Sandy Ward
Theldon Warner
Willie Washington
Ronald Weber
Bill Weaver
Danny Weeks

Alan Westerman
Michael Whitlow
Ron Whitson
Robert Wilkerson
Dawn Wilson
Rosie Wilson





Shelli Winans
Sandra Winebrenner
Stephanie Wolever
Timothy Wolfe
Vickie Worman
Patricia Wright

Ricky Wright
Robin Wright
Marc Yeiter
Katy Young
Tim Beck
Shari Benson



Mike Brewer
Dan Combs
James Crawford
Mike Creason
Robert Curtis
Tamara Gilbert

Spurgeon Green
Jessie Holley
Shannon Jones
Karen Lenington
Blake Nei
Mark Nei



Cheryl Payne
Randy Ramsey
Deborah Renner
Morgan Rodey
Ruth Savage
Doug Shroyer

Linda Suter
Ken Thieme
Rick Wilson



Baby Rams Tackle First Year at Portage

Melody Adkisson
Linda Anderson
Debra Atkinson
Brian Barber
Johnny Barnett
Juanita Berrera



Curtis Bates
Marshall Beatty
Anthony Bennett
Donna Black
Roger Blaine
Robin Bleifeld



Debra Bloemker
Robert Bollenbacher
Linda Bonar
Sue Bonar
Helen Bornschein
Doug Boyles

Bruce Braun
Rae Brofford
Charles Brown
Gwendolyn Brown
Kathy Brown
Judy Buell



Toni Bunch
Janet Burke
Kim Burry
Jesse Campos
Angela Capps
Mike Chandler



Loretta Clark
Tom Clendenen
Stephanie Click
Melvin Cobb
Selina Cobb
Grace Cole

Pamela Collier
Orville Combs
Pamela Connett
Andrew Conrad
Derrick Cox
Bill Craig

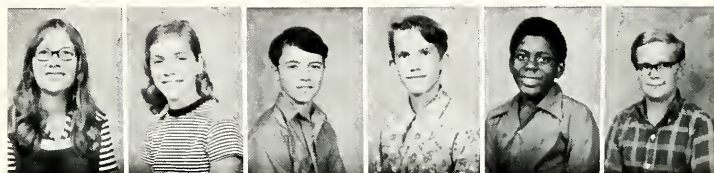


John Crothers
Jane Cruse
Clifford Darling
Nancy Dennie
Debra Dennis
John Didier



Janeen Dierkes
Barbara Dixon
Delilah Duck
Deanna Duguid
Paul Edsall
Sylvester Essex

Dorothy Felger
Bernadine Finken
Rex Fisher
Michael Forkert
Andrew Fowlkes
Jim Frankewich



David Frebel
Karen Free
Rhoda Freeman
Violet Gaham
Armando Gracia
Tim Gaskill



Anthony Gaulden
Martin Gebhard
Harold Gill
Lohn Goble
Pat Gooden
Jeffrey Grate

Tim Green
Jeannie Gropengieser
Karl Gulker
Stephen Haggenjos
Robert Hamilton
Ron Headen





Paula Heishman
Scott Heller
Mike Hicks
Diana Hofmann
Steve Holley
Robert Hood

George Hoover
Vernon Howard
Warren Howard
Bill Hutchens
Shawn Huttzell
Rebecca Johnson



Robert Johnson
Joanne Jones
Colby Keeney
Gerald Kendall
Ruth Kerns
Kathy Kowalenko



Charles Kuhn
Judy Kumfer
Michael Ladd
Anne Lahmeyer
Joan Landrigan
Michael Langston

Ronald Langston
Cynthia Lemaster
Brenda Leshore
Thea Levine
Alvin Lewis
Carmille Lewis



Kerry Lewis
Maureen Litch
George Lowery
Randy McCombs
Margaret McDaniel
Ann McDonald



Duane Mabee
Chris Magers
Anita Martin
Barry Martin
Linn Martin
Roseann Martin

Sergio Martinez
Patrick Masson
Cheryl Medsker
Sheri Meredith
Charles Miller
Lucille Mitchell



Michael Moran
Kevin Morningstar
Randy Morrison
James Moyer
Rosalind Mudd
Betty Mundt



Carol Mundt
Patricia Murphy
Bill Murray
Katherine Murray
Linda Myers
David Nelson

Sam Norton
Michele Novell
James Omo
Gregory Owen
Marti Paris
Elizabeth Park



Randy Parker
Debra Paul
Paul Perez
Cheryl Perry
Kimberly Perry
Marc Phelps



Jeffrey Phillips
Don Pletcher
Lorri Porter
Linda Quickery
Michelle Quinn
Beth Raber

Kathleen Ramer
Michael Rarick
Melissa Ratliff
Scott Raymer
Gregory Rector
John Reibs





Amy Ress
Mildred Reynolds
Daniel Rice
Brent Richards
Tim Ridenour
Crisilda Rivera

Vanquenti Robinson
Jeff Roby
Pam Roth
Melanie Rowan
Jeanine Russell
Jane Ruttenberg



Patrick Ryan
Lori Scheimann
Brian Shoemaker
Valerie Shrock
Pamela Sills
Wendy Simerman



Gerald Smith
Regina Smith
Julie Smyser
Tim Stackhouse
Beth Stalf
Leon Stalling

Kathryn Stanley
Michael Starks
Roger Stephens
Carl Stewart
William Stewart
Joyce Stout



Charles Stroud
Dennis Tate
Regina Tate
Shane Taylor
Mary Thompson
Kristina Toam



Roderick Tolbert
Patricia Torres
James Tracey
Earline Tubbs
Wendell Tubbs
Nick Tyler

Greg Tyson
Ricky VanDyne
Nancy VanGheluwe
Darrell Vaughn
Robert Waldrop
Carla Walker



Glenmore Washington
Melvin Washington
Rosemary Washington
Priscilla Watson
Rhonda Wattley
Gary Weber



Kevin Westerman
Pamela Wetzel
Alice Whitlow
June Whitmore
Emmett Williams
Ronald Williams

Sonya Williams
Irma Wilson
Janet Wilson
Dawn Wince
Charles Wirick
Judy Wittibslager



Robert Woodruff
Francine Woods
Sharon Woods
Christopher Worth
Julanne Wright
Laura Wynn



Clark Yoquelet
Gregory Bonsib
Beth Creason
Steve Esterson
Kelvin Green
Bill Kettler

Tonya Richards
Martin Rifkin
Dawn Scott
Mark Thomas



A Place to Be in the Office



Louise Simmons



Bertha Scott



Office workers (LEFT TO RIGHT): (FRONT) Mrs. Scott, Herbert Ellis, Mitzi Hicks, Ethel Fowlkes, Mrs. Simmons; (BACK) Betty Carrion, Verna Turflinger, Jonny Nash, Cindy Burley, Janene Springer

Upon coming to Portage, two of the first people one would meet are Mrs. Bertha Scott and Mrs. Louise Simmons, who spend their days handling many of the crises that occur. Also Portage teacher aide Mrs. Dottie Collins spent her time in the attendance office keeping records.



Dottie Collins



Richard Cira



Julie Murtaugh

The big job of getting students in classes right for them fell upon Mrs. Julie Murtaugh and Mr. J. Richard Cira.

Listening to and helping students through problems of being a Portage Junior High student took counselors' attention regularly.



Typing and attendance work for Mrs. Collins



A desk filled with work pending for Mrs. Simmons



A welcome break for Mrs. Murtaugh



Scheduling classes for Pam Belcher... a job for Mr. Cira



Santa Claus at Portage? No, boxes of canned goods headed for the Christmas Bureau

In the Lunchroom . . .



CAFETERIA WORKERS (LEFT TO RIGHT): (FRONT) B. Mudrack, D. Burnett, B. Templeton, D. Hamilton, J. Heiney, J. Grose, T. Bennett; (SECOND) P. Tyson, T. Huntley, S. Wood, J. Gensic, C. Wood, B. Darling, P. Mason; (THIRD) M. Quinn, J. Mabe, B. Goggins, C. Lewis; (BACK) J. Stefanski, A. Maier, D. Jennings, S. Beck.



School lunches aren't exactly one of the top ten best sellers, but they rate far above the usual idea. In case no one noticed Danny Hermes hopping from table to table begging for someone's chocolate chip cookie or garlic bread, maybe you'll remember the breaded tenderloins, hot beef and noodles, and burning chili which were included in the menu. If not, simply dust off your Daniel Boone lunch pail.

On a good day, the custodians would find a juicy note, or maybe a full pack of Wrigley's gum. But then of course, on a bad day two fountains would be clogged with gum, the girls' bathroom ceiling would be covered with wet toilet paper, and none of the chalkboards would have "SAVE" written on them.



COOKS (LEFT TO RIGHT): Gloria Reibs, Ruth Loomis, Reta Moore, Genevieve Booher, Irene Stark, Wanda Hart, Pauline Snyder (manager).



CUSTODIAL STAFF: David Scott, Leonard Bryant, Hilda Linnemeyer, Charles Tepin, Arnold Boese.

and Around the School



LIBRARY WORKERS (LEFT TO RIGHT): (FRONT) K. Bennett, S. Smith; (2nd) J. Grose, D. Knox, J. Helberg, Mrs. Radatz; (3rd) J. Springer, S. Ward, Mrs. Parlow; (4th) C. Burley, A. Rhodus; (5th) J. Stefanski; (STANDING, FRONT TO BACK) C. Springer, J. Roby, F. Anderson.

"Sh-h-h-h-h . . ." is a well-known sound in the library. However, the librarians have picked up a few more vocabulary words and are able to find for you any information, instantly — whether it's the size of a brown-headed cowbird or the final book of the "Bertha Goes to the Prom" series.



Psychometrist Robert Newnum tests for educational capacity



Jerry Anderson
Special Education



"I think I'm going to be sick!"



"Bookworms welcome," smiles Mrs. Radatz.



Mildred Radatz



Joyce Parlow



"Now repeat the sounds exactly as you hear them."

To smooth out the lumps and bumps from the smooth rhythm of school, psychometrist Robert Newnum, speech therapist Peggy Grant, and nurse Gladys Squires dropped by every few days and got to work on the puzzling problems that fell in their ways.

A Place to Be For...

Learning



English Teachers See That Students

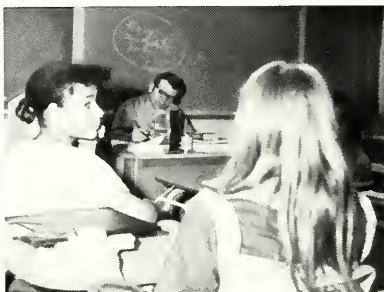


Mrs. Heins presides over a reading assignment

The seventh graders in developmental reading worked in the SRA labs, and struggled to get their book reports in on time. Meanwhile, English classes filled in the gap with grammar and spelling lessons. The eighth graders read **BANNER IN THE SKY** in English classes and, although they mainly concentrated on reading, did find time to fit in a bit of spelling and grammar. The spelling contest also came in for work, with all seventh and eighth graders participating.



"Smile, you're on Candid Camera!"



"Uh-oh, here comes another quiz!"



Jane Langdon



John Septer



"Oh, really" quoth Mrs. Langdon



Anita Heins



Don Reynolds



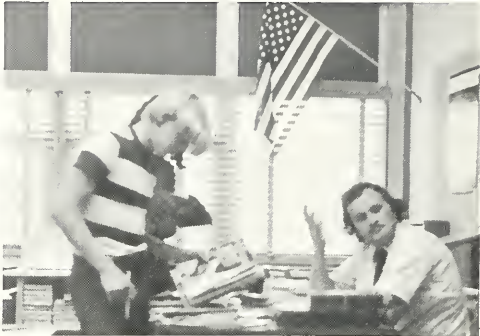
Jack Berg

Learn in Spite of Themselves

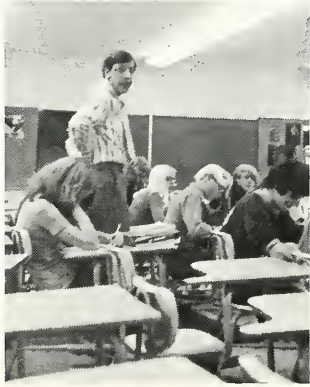
The Portage freshmen this year started out their English classes with their noses in several novels and short stories, as well as the play "Requiem for a Heavyweight." They enjoyed a month or two of grammar (enjoyed?), by memorizing N-V-N-N patterns, predicates, usage and irregular verbs, taking time out for the Lions Club speech contest and several essays. But the teachers, for once, didn't put much pressure on the spelling part of language arts class, leaving more room for compositions (cough-wheeze).



Research assignments are part of the English curriculum



"Don't ask me. I don't know."



Jane Hoylman

Team-teaching — kids teach half the class, two teachers the other

Typing



Typing this year was taught by Mr. Gebhard. Ninth graders taking this class



Don Gebhard

learned the fundamentals of typing: ASDFJKL: — ASD FJKL: and learned to increase their speed and accuracy.

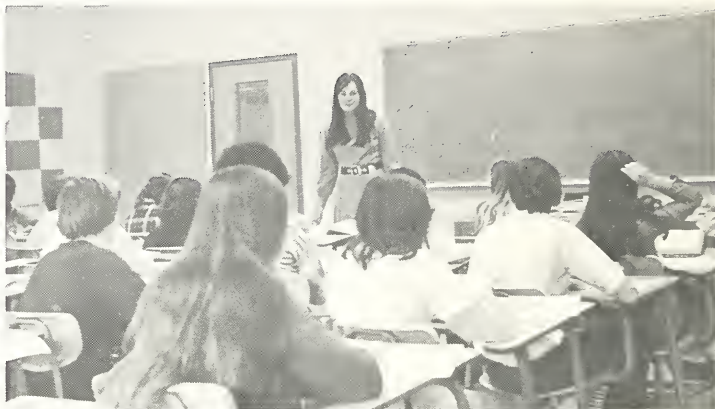
"You must keep your fingers on the keys, Janet."

correctly

Math Students Add 7, \div by 5,

π $>$ $\sqrt{\quad}$ \cap \leq ∞

etc. Chinese? No, it's new math, everyone's favorite class! (?) It's where you learn to subtract, multiply, square root, pi, and wear down your pencil and brain while trying to discover how far Joe walked in three hours.



Mrs. Egley's math class concentrates on a new bit of knowledge



Mr. Desper certainly has an attentive class

Algebra classes dealt with equations, variables, and axioms as the fundamentals of algebra and ninth grade math classes did too. Most Portage wizards turned out a terrific string drawing and they really worked hard, these mathematicians. Eat your heart out, Einstein.



Scribbling out their math problems, ninth graders concentrate on posing for the camera

The seventh graders worked on such things as properties and math sentences while the eighth had to tackle a congruent triangle and story problem proofs — not to mention different bases.

and Are Taught by 6



Neal McKeeman



David Desper



Bob Denny

As you probably noticed, Mr. McKeeman floated from class to class this year. Why? So that Portage might have a math lab! What's a math lab? A room where you mix numbers and invent magic solutions? Well, not really. It's 151, a puzzle solving, geometric figure making, game doing lab. Kids could get out of classes and study hall to go down to the math lab and actually have fun doing math! Anything that makes math fun has got to be good. And the math lab certainly was.



Sue Simler



Sherry Johnson



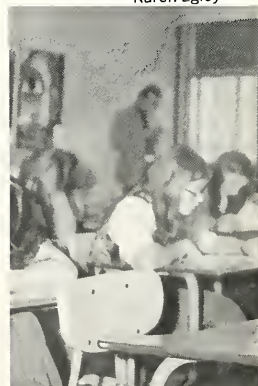
Karen Egley



Isolated student just can't get the hang of it wonder why?!



Mr. McKeeman, just trying to get his profile in the yearbook again.



Didn't make it this time, did you, Mr. McKeeman ?!

Science Students Chemically



Biology students return from a hard day of bug collecting.



Jim Brown



Charles Murray

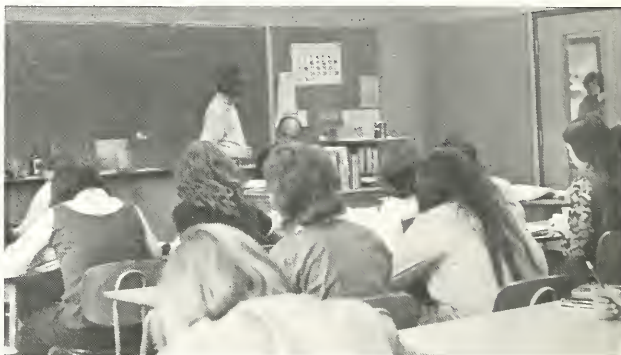


Barbara Stahl



Vern Werking

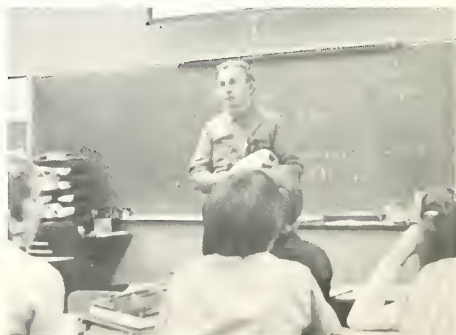
Seventh and eighth grade scientists are often seen in their labs mixing information and experimenting with chemical reactions under a cloud of concentration mingled with confusion. These future mad scientists made a trip to the planetarium, identified rocks, tested different types of air, and had many labs through which the yell of "fire" or "ouch" was expected to ring out at any moment.



Mr. Murray helps a puzzled seventh grader by doing his assignment for him.



Mr. Brown diagrams a time line for future scientific geniuses.



Mr. Werking's class studies chemical reactions.

React to Knowledge 1756356



Tom Pearson



Max Amstutz



Biology Special students are literally "up a tree" for leaf collections.

The health department this year taught classes about smoking, drugs, body functions, emotions, and safety precautions. All those ninth graders should be awfully healthy be now.



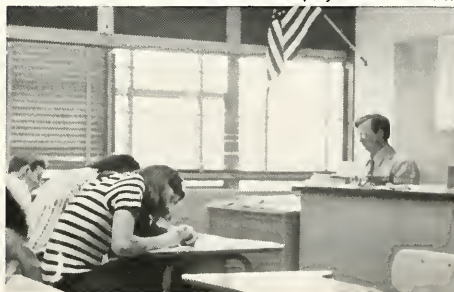
Putter Frebel points out a flutterby in his collection. Now what's that one called again?



Mr. Amstutz stands surrounded by nature at its best — ragweed.



Debbie Redman displays her outstanding "bug collection."



Mr. Pearson's health class works studiously on a test.

After a summer of collecting bugs, the ninthers got to dissect frogs, memorize charts, draw pictures, and take tests every two minutes, it seemed. They also spent their time grabbing leaves and trying to decide if that tree has acorns, flowers, or bananas.

Customs and Languages



Citizenship students learn about government with Mr. Berg



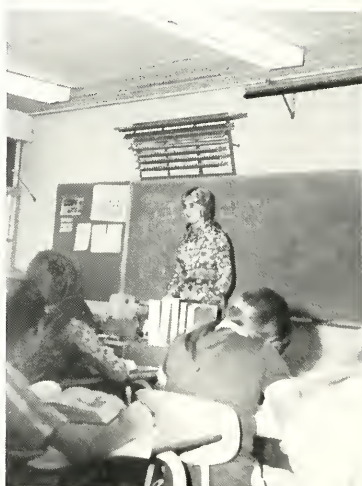
Norma Sterling



Richard Shepherd



Mr. Shepherd talks to class



Miss Lindley instructs her history class



Chris Lindley

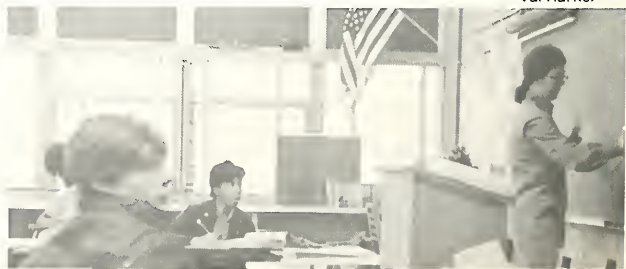


Mr. Harker assists student

Students at Portage this year taking social studies spanned the globe while studying different countries. Seventh graders learned about the customs and people of Russia. They were also taught about the ways of South America. Eighth graders discovered how the United States came to be and who our forefathers were.



Val Harker

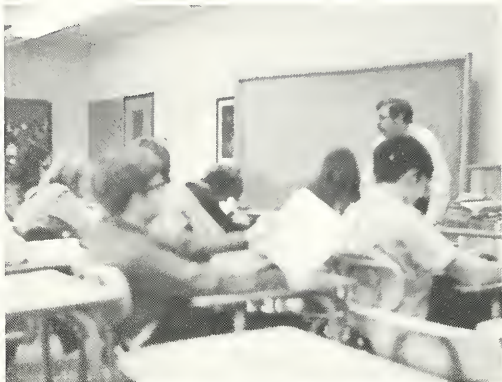


Mrs. Sterling teaches about the American way of life.

of Europe and the States



Pepito and Iman come to life for Spanish students taught by Mrs. Warfel.



Mr. Didier lends the Latin way to his class.



The French class sings "Oh Come All Ye Faithful" and "Jingle Bells" in French for the Christmas program.



Miss LaFontaine teaches Francais to her class.



Patricia LaFontaine



Isabel Warfel



David Didier

French students learned the language and customs of France. They saw many French movies during the year, which improved the students' knowledge greatly. The group also enjoyed French cuisine at Cafe Johnell. Spanish students learned about the culture of Spain, and they sang Spanish songs throughout the year. The class took a taste-tempting trip to Don Pedro's Spanish restaurant. The Latin class learned the customs of old Rome and the Latin language.

Phys Ed Students Improve Their Bods



Eighth grade boys become basketball stars in p.e.



Don Schaffer



Dorothy Bishop



The new ram's head on the gym floor depicts the team's determination.



Speed-away's the name of the game

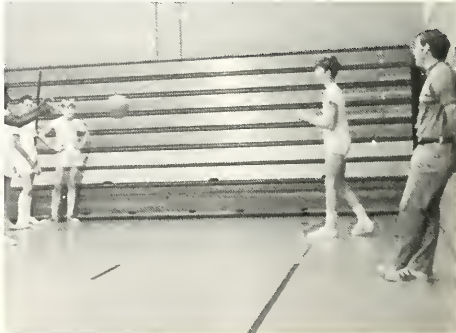
I can hear her now — "Barber ... six ... Beadie ... five ... Bell ... six" and so on. To some girls, gym was a blast, yet to others it was murder. With all that running and throwing and dodging and kicking and jumping and hitting, you'd think they'd get killed. But then that's the fun of it all, seeing who survives.



Eighth grade girls reveal their sexy legs



Mrs. Bishop explains polyrhythms, alias ball routines



Mr. Schaffer watches while the boys practice their basketball drills

From Shop and Home Ec Come Future Handymen and Homemakers



The lathe helps many students as they work in the shop

Students in shop and drafting this year improved their skills under the supervision of Mr. White and Mr. Alvis. Seventh graders learned about the fundamentals of woodworking and drafting while the eighth and ninth were taught electricity and advanced woodworking and drafting. Some ninth grade girls tried their hand at shop during seventh period this year too.



Mr. Alvis grimaces — it's been a hard day



Dwight Alvis



Al White



Anna Barbor

If ever a fantastic smell of hot cinnamon rolls and cocoa infiltrated your nose, you can bet it was the home ec class slaving at their stoves again under the watchful eye of Mrs. Freck, while others whipped up dresses and skirts at their sewing machines in "Barbor's Shop." Seventh graders first learned about health care and tips on babysitting. Eighth graders got to climb up a little higher with their skills and tried their luck with chipped beef on toast and a skirt. Then those



Carol Freck

nineths who took home ec turned out full dresses and genuine gingerbread houses. Not only the girls but some boys got into the cooking mood and took a semester of foods.



Home ec girls learn that along with cooking comes the cleaning up



As you can see, clothing students always pay attention in class!

Art Students Exhibit Their Talent



— Sherry Beck

— Anthony Green



— Beth Wasson



— Kenny LaCrone



— Dawn Alles



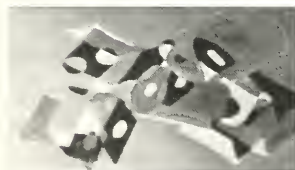
— Patrick Lytal



Mrs. Ruth DeHaven



— Ted Ornas



— Sheryl Crawford



— Barb Ridenour

Although these masterpieces seem to be originated by Picasso, such isn't the case. Throughout the seventh and eighth grade years, these painters were hard at work learning the fundamentals. This is where Mrs. DeHaven came in. She guided their brushes through watercolors, crayons, pencil drawings, and finally, after two years of struggle, an oil painting worthy of a museum spot light. Jump back, Picasso, Portage is painting the town!



Future Rembrandts at work



A Place to Be For...

M U S I C

Birds of a Fea



Cadet Choir is basically a prep course for Varsity Choir. It consists of Baby Rams interested in a combination of general music and a lot of singing. These poor tortured Baby Rams must

spent a part of every music hour copying notes for music notebooks. Then, if time permits, they practice for such things as the Christmas program and spring concert.



The second step in the ladder of their musical training lands on Varsity Choir for eighth graders. With their seventh grade year of experience under their sleeves, they proceed with their songs, films, work toward their final year as

ninth graders. A couple of examples of what these busy middlemen have been doing are visiting the feeder schools and participating in the Christmas program and spring concert.

ther Sing Together...

May-me-ma-mo-mooo ...

Do-re-mi-fa-so-la ...

1-3-5-3-1 ...

What's this?????

Seventh and eighth grade warm-up! For all those talented Streisands who had the gift of song, there was the supreme test: NISBOVA solos and ensembles. These people practiced their pieces diligently (especially the day before contest) and when D-day arrived, they were ready to sing their way into the judges' hearts for a superior rating and a gold medal.



Swing Choir could be described as the pick of the bunch or the best of the choir ... but however you describe it, they were comin' on strong. Such songs as "Charades" and "Where Is Love" were performed with great success. Mrs. Meese's small group blossomed from a tangled melange of eighth grade boys and girls into a swingin' Swing Choir.



Mildred Meese



Swing Choir was made up of select members of Varsity Choir.

Play Together . . . Work To



Ninth grade varsity choir is the third and final step on the vocal music ladder at Portage. These musically inclined people were kept pretty busy this year, practicing for the Christmas, patriotic, and spring programs. They also visited the feeder schools, Nebraska, Lindley, Anthony Wayne, Price, and Study.

Officers this year were Jon Gordy, president; Julie Morken and Lonna Slatton, secretaries; Dave Richey, Janet Gillie, Selma Vaughn, and Kevin Jellison, librarians.



When it comes to blowing their own horns, the eighth and ninth graders are pretty good. But then when it comes to combining all of the various sounds, these kids really know how

to get it together. The Varsity Concert Band didn't do much concertizing, yet they filled up the gap with playing and challenging those in first chair.

gether . . . to make . . .



Don Parlette



John Broom



Cadet Orchestra

Unlike the Varsity Orchestra, the Cadet Orchestra consists solely of strings. This group of fiddlers may not have had a roof, but they

had an hour in which to learn how to pluck a perfect plunker and bow a better bass.



Cass Band

Consisting entirely of brass, woodwind, and percussion, these musicians played at several locations around town, including several ninth grade games.



Instrumental teachers at work . . . Mr. Parlette directing. Mr. Broom conferring with student teacher Ruth DiNovo.



Ninth Ensemble Club

Ninth grade vocalists banded together for ensemble work during weekly sessions.



NISBOVA judge's room

During contest time, there were a few brave souls who timidly entered the NISBOVA judge's room and performed a solo that could be heard occasionally between the chattering of their teeth and the shaking of their knees.

A Perfect Music Department



Varsity Orchestra features eighth and ninth grade string players along with the best of the winds and percussion — and their sound is the best too.

By combining the squeak of the violin, the blare of the trumpet, the squawk of the clarinets, and the shrill of the piccolo, somehow Mr. Parlette came out with a number one orchestra. It didn't come without problems, however. Half of the time, Mr. Parlette was trying to shut the trumpets up (an impossible task). Also, lubricating keys, softening reeds, and raising stands took up the period's time. But by some miracle, they got in a minute or two of practice and obviously that did it!

What group of kids search the music folders for a suitable arrangement? Which students stay after school, missing the bus and supper, to practice? How many people blow out their brains 24 hours a day playing their music over and over again? Who pull out their hair before contest day, then end up with a gold medal to show off? What musicians would go through all this? The ensemble contestants would!



NISBOVA competition gives wind ensembles a chance to test their skill in performance



Suite Sixteen makes its Portage debut

Suite Sixteen is an all-string group made up of nine violins, two violas, four cellos, and one string bass. On certain days, these string musicians lugged their stands, chairs, and music to Mr. Werking's room to practice their pieces. The idea was taken from a similar string group that performs in Minneapolis. Most of Suite Sixteen's music comes from pieces that this group plays. They performed at the spring concert and also at NISBOVA.



A Place to Be For

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Varsity Gridders Sweep City



NINTH GRADE CITY CHAMPS (LEFT TO RIGHT): (FRONT) G. Mann, G. Gordon, H. Brown, G. Curry, J. Heller, M. Finken, R. Watters, J. Williams; (SECOND) Coach Don Schaffer, A. Green, T. Underwood, A. Norton, B. Jones, L. Vandyne, T. Smith, B. Mazelin, K. Fadus, Coach Bob Denny; (THIRD) R. Coe, F. Underwood, R. Walker, K. Litchin, D. Chrzan, B. Miller, J. Sills, C. Roth, R. Georgi. Not shown; M. Hershberger, G. Shepherd.

The freshman team won its first individual football title in 13 years, repeating the title of last year's co-champion by winning six games without a loss. The team was built around a strong defense that allowed only 18 points all season, with an average of only three points per game. The most exciting highlights were the game with Miami, in which they clinched the south division for Portage, and the city championship game, where the action was never dull in the rain.



Honorary captains
T. Smith, A. Green



Outstanding offensive:
Green



Outstanding defensive
players J. Williams, F.
Underwood



Smith kicks pigskin



Green in action



Green on the run

SCOREBOARD — 9th		
RAMS		OPPONENT
12	Fairfield	0
6	Franklin	0
32	Kekionga	0
8	Miami	6
8	Geyer	6
CITY CHAMPIONSHIP		
12	Jefferson	8

Eighth Continues Unbeaten Streak



EIGHTH GRADE CITY CHAMPS (LEFT TO RIGHT): (FRONT) J. Heiney (mgr), R. Culpepper, B. Baker, A. Belcher, B. Russell, K. Coker, J. Green, B. Kratzert, D. Kessel, B. Mudrack, coach Neal McKeeman; **(SECOND)** M. Curry, S. Sims, M. Rush, B. Miles, D. Culpepper, C. Strawbridge, R. Bloemker, B. Tolliver, T. Osborne (mgr); **(BACK)** D. Bickel, T. Beck, D. Pelz, D. Miller, E. Starks, D. Peters, P. Jacobs, J. Shifflett, A. Gooden.



Outstanding defensive: A. Gooden



Outstanding offensive: B. Russell



Honorary captain D. Peters

Mr. McKeeman completely forgot about last year's disastrous season and produced an eighth grade football team that couldn't be beaten in season play and in championship playoffs. Their success was built around a rugged defense which only allowed 12 points for an eighth grade record. Their offense was something else too. It averaged 17 points a game, with Brian Russell its main contributor, scoring 44 points during the season.



Kessel throws to victory



Defense stops 'em cold



First down brings joy to Al Gooden

Seventh Finishes Perfect Record



SEVENTH GRADE CITY CHAMPS (LEFT TO RIGHT): (FRONT) S. Heller, G. Tyson, G. Hoover, D. Tate, W. Tubbs, C. Stroud, S. Kendall, T. Stackhouse, T. Bennett, R. Williams; (MIDDLE) N. Tyler, M. Rifkin, A. Fowlkes, B. Barber, M. Starks, T. Green, B. Woodruff, D. Vaughn, D. Frebel; (BACK) O. J. Lewis (manager), R. Hood, B. Shoemaker, C. Worth, S. Haggenjos, S. Holley, S. Norton, R. Morrison, C. Yoquelet, Coach D. Reynolds.



End of a great run for Baby Rams



R. Williams gains first down for seventh



Green slides around end

SCOREBOARD — 7th

RAMS	OPPONENTS	
26	Kekionga	0
14	Fairfield	0
8	Franklin	0



Tim Green catches touchdown pass for Super Seventh



Baby Rams hold Kekionga scoreless



Seventh shows sportsmanship after hard run

The Baby Rams, including Mr. Reynolds, had a very successful season. All three grades compiled a record of 20-0, and three of the wins were courtesy of the seventh graders. Their rugged defense didn't allow a single point all season, and their offense averaged 16 points a game. Mr. Reynolds won praise for molding his small team into a championship group.

Minor Sports Draw Enthusiasm



Jim Patterson leading the way



9th Grade Cross Country: (KNEELING) K. Gaskill, D. Chamberlain, D. Kirkland; (STANDING) P. Gutman, J. Walls, (mgr), D. Landrigan; (BACK) P. Frebel, Coach Desper, L. Raber



Larry Raber crosses the finish line

This year's cross-country team had a very successful year. The ninth grade finished fourth in city and seventh and eighth grade finished sixth. The ninth grade was led by Larry Raber, who came in tenth, while Putter Frebel and Denny Kirkland battled for 25th and 26th respectively for Portage. The eighth grade was led by Jim Patterson, who came in tenth, and Todd Nichols, closely following in seventeenth place.

Golf and track showed promise in the spring.



8th Grade Cross Country: (FRONT) S. Hutsell, T. Nichols, R. Fahling, S. Vaughn, T. Springer; (BACK) Coach Desper, H. Sims, D. Jennings, J. Patterson, G. Bonsib, J. Walls (mgr). Not present, J. Crothers



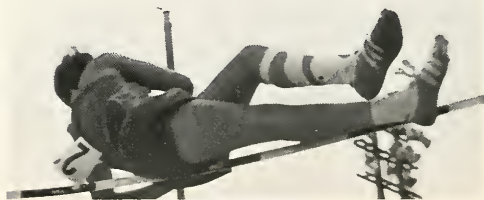
Golf Team: (KNEELING) D. Chamberlain, K. Stephenson; (STANDING) T. Chase, R. Coe, M. Johnson, M. Hershberger, Coach J. Berg



Georgi in the air



Finken on the hurdles



Heller clearing the bar

Eighth Grade Takes



9th grade team: (FRONT) J. Woods, T. Underwood, P. Gutman, A. Green, G. Gordon; (BACK) manager S. Sims, D. Kusak, T. Smith, K. Litchin, R. Georgi, D. Chrzan, M. Hershberger, D. Landrigan, Coach N. McKeeman.

SCOREBOARD — 9th

RAMS	OPPONENTS	
11/17 37	Lane	53
11/23 34	Northwood	49
11/30 39	Blackhawk	34
12/7 18	Fairfield	35
12/14 46	Geyer	44
12/21 41	Lakeside	47
1/4 56	Miami	42
1/8 33	Bishop Luers	48
1/11 50	Shawnee	49
1/18 52	Kekionga	40
1/25 39	Franklin	61
2/1 31	Jefferson	59
2/5 40	TOURNEY	51

SCOREBOARD — 8th

RAMS	OPPONENTS	
11/17 56	Lane	24
11/23 48	Northwood	20
11/30 55	Blackhawk	29
12/7 43	Fairfield	32
12/14 64	Geyer	38
12/21 64	Lakeside	26
1/4 55	Miami	40
1/11 44	Shawnee	23
1/18 55	Kekionga	20
1/25 55	Franklin	39
2/1 45	Jefferson	28
2/6 57	TOURNEY	30
2/8 41	Shawnee	33
2/14 43	Blackhawk	32
	Geyer	32

SCOREBOARD

Rams		Opponents	
12/8	38	Northwood	33
12/15	23	Miami	34
1/5	33	Kekionga	42
1/12	34	Franklin	28
1/26	47	Fairfield	19

The eighth grade had the most successful season of all, with no defeats. In the final game of the city tourney, an easy first half and a struggling second half against Geyer proved that they were the city champs.

The ninth grade record doesn't appear to look like a successful one but 4 wins to 8 losses is much better than a single victory from last year's season.

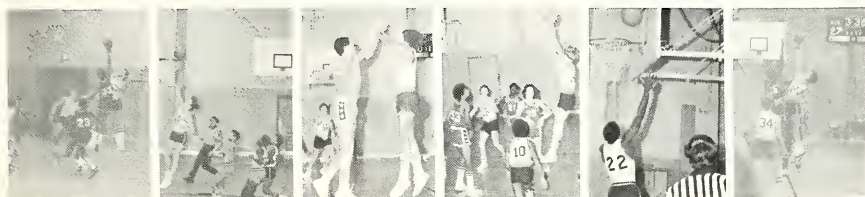
The seventh graders had a successful season too. The Baby Rams compiled a record of 4-1 and their only loss came from Miami.



City Basketball Honors



8th grade team (LEFT TO RIGHT): (FRONT) B. Baker, D. Pelz, W. Washington, C. Strawbridge, K. Coker; (BACK) Coach D. Desper, B. Russell, D. Culpepper, D. Peters, E. Starks, A. Gooden, T. Beck, R. Culpepper, J. Walls (mgr)



7th grade team: (FRONT) J. Kendall, R. Williams, M. Starks, B. Barber, M. Rifkin, C. Stewart; (BACK) manager J. Walls, D. Murray, C. Yoquelet, J. Crothers, R. Morrison, S. Norton, B. Shoemaker, T. Green, S. Holley, M. Cobb, Coach D. Desper.



Go! Rams! Go!



"Rams, are ya' with us?" "Yeah, man!"



Before the game



9th grade cheerleaders (CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT): B. Harman, A. Momper, M. Hunter, N. Beadie, C. Kratzert



Don't fall, Ann!



Ready, girls?



8th grade cheerleaders (CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT): P. Schrader, K. Auer, B. Litchin, K. Heiney

If you got to thinking that cheerleading seems like a status symbol more than anything else, you probably didn't stay after school to witness their practice session. You didn't attend every single basketball and football game. You didn't spend that time thinking up cheers, remembering chants, screaming out "Sink it, Terry, sink it!" or "Jump, jump, sky high, tip it to a Portage guy," and hoping that the band starts the school song on a low note. You hadn't spent one or two days out of a week in a hot sticky sweater, and hoping that people realized that those were bloomers you were wearing. So next time a cheerleader starts a chant, join in. They deserve it.



Go! Fight! Win!



Cheerleaders defy gravity



7th grade cheerleaders (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP): G. Cole, B. LeShore, J. Russell, K. Toam, T. Levine



A Place to Be In . . .

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Bang! Bang! "Meeting Come to Order!"



STUDENT COUNCIL (LEFT TO RIGHT): (FRONT) Mrs. Murtaugh, S. Williams, J. Walls, E. Bostic, J. Gensic, T. Richard, A. Kettler, W. Howard, C. Cobb, Mr. Cira; (MIDDLE) P. Gooden, C. Goshorn, K. Auer, B. Litchin, Y. Morrill, A. Watters, M. Paris; (BACK) B. Miles, M. Johnson, D. Kusak, P. Frebel, K. Litchin, T. Smith, P. Gutman, R. Shaw, C. Springer.

When the hot election in October cooled off and the smoke and steam floated away, it left sitting in the president's chair Leslie Novitsky, a very surprised and happy winner, and his "sidekick," Ted Chase. However, the average person doesn't know very much about the Student Council other than Mr. Middleton's rare announcement, "There will be a Student Council meeting at 2:17 today." What did they do in those meetings? Well, for instance, T-shirts, school spirit, the school constitution, and the candy sale were some of the topics taken into consideration at those "come as you are" get-togethers. They had to form a committee for the candy sale, a committee in charge of the Christmas tree, a committee selecting the Portage shirts, and even a committee to choose committees. There was a lot to be done, and not much time to do it in. But evidently, by the looks of things, they did a bang-up job of getting everything in.



L. Novitsky



T. Chase



ALTERNATES: (FRONT) B. Bouey, B. Litchin, T. Chase, L. Novitsky, B. Cohen; (1st) N. Beadie, T. Huntley, D. Beutler, T. Levine, B. Templeton, K. Bunker; (2nd) D. Knox, D. Lupke, B. Barber, S. Gieser, J. Landrigan; (BACK) B. Barber, M. Hicks, C. Evans, A. Green, T. Beck, T. McCorms.

Journalists of the World, Unite!



PACKET staff: (SEATED) N. Beadie, S. Stewart, Mrs. Hoylman, B. Harman; (STANDING) R. Georgi, K. Stephenson, D. Whipp, D. Hermes, S. Railey. Not pictured, T. Chase, P. Frebel.

Students may have wondered how the Portage PACKET ever got put together. Sarah Stewart, editor-in-chief, spent much time writing editorials, laying out pages, and generally trying to control the mass confusion that beset the cast of journalists the day before deadline. She was assisted by Barb Harman, news editor, feature editor Nancy Beadie, and sports editor Ted Chase. And Portage always saw a bunch of proud kids when the PACKET went out. It was no miracle ... just WORK!

Another group which had to pull out their hair to meet deadlines was the yearbook kids. They started the year as happy, normal students and came out as nervous, frenzied people with copy, headlines, pictures, and layouts running in and out of their heads. One hour wasn't enough so they came in after school, weekends, and holidays. But was it worth it? You can bet your PORTARAMA it was!



PORTARAMA staff: (SEATED) K. Litchin, Y. Morrill, L. Novitsky, Mrs. Hoylman; (STANDING) J. Tolliver, P. Gutman, M. Hershberger, R. Coe, B. Barber. Not pictured, R. Cohen.



JOURNALISM CLUB (LEFT TO RIGHT): (1st) S. Perrine, A. Hayden, K. Heiney, J. Dowling, J. Grose; (2nd) Mrs. Hoylman, C. Bolinger, N. Campbell, C. Chase, A. Oswalt, T. Huntley; (3rd) S. Wolever, B. Litchin, L. Collier, T. Cross; (4th) C. Holt, J. Stengel, M. Tyler, P. Jacobs.

Most of the future members of the PACKET staff and PORTARAMA staff emerged from this year's Journalism Club. Students in this club cropped pictures, counted headlines, wrote copy for newspaper and yearbook, and in general, "learned the trade" of publications. Club photographers were also instructed on how to take a picture without dropping the camera.

“King Me!” “Checkmate!” “Watch the Wood Lathe!”



CHESS CLUB: (SEATED) E. Strack, K. Geislerman, Mr. Brown; (1st) B. Mudrack, S. Perrine, T. Ornas, P. Tyson, T. Gilbert, K. Kelley, J. Shifflett; (2nd) R. Wagner, M. Martin, S. Perrine, V. Veale; (3rd) A. Belcher, E. Clark, J. Helberg; (4th) A. Westerman, M. Myers, R. Georgi.



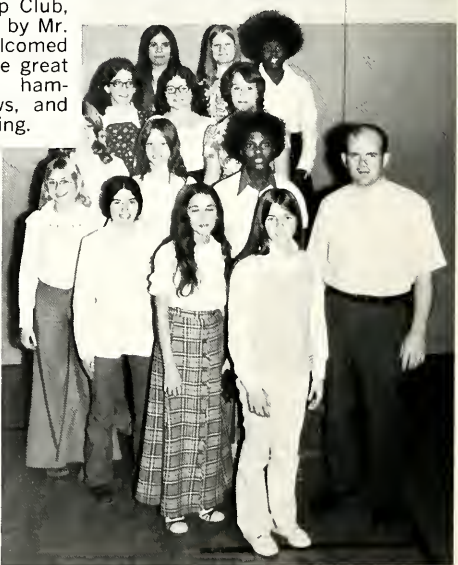
On the red and black boards, Mr. Murray's Checker Club and Mr. Brown's and Mr. Anderson's Chess Clubs saw many wars. The fatalities were many, but a lot of people had fun ... Checkmate!

CHESS CLUB: (SEATED) B. Slater, M. Yeiter, Mr. Anderson; (1st) D. Beutler, T. Gaskill, B. Brown, S. Heller; (2nd) A. Kettler, A. Conrad, D. Kusak, D. Vaughn; (3rd) J. Merz, V. Myers, A. Lahrman, G. Bonsib, B. Richards.

Girls' Shop Club, sponsored by Mr. White, welcomed girls to the great world of hammers, saws, and woodworking.



CHECKERS CLUB: (SEATED) B. Bouey, S. Sims, J. Walls, B. Rice; (1st) J. Mabe, T. Osborne, Mr. Murray, J. Helberg; (2nd) D. Peters, A. Westerman, D. Pelz.



GIRLS SHOP: (1st) C. Chase, B. Carrion, M. Ludwig, K. Heiney, Mr. White; (2nd) S. Wolever, K. Jackson, L. Hughes; (3rd) J. Nash, K. Bennett, S. Gieser; (4th) L. Perez, S. Smith, M. Hughes.

in After-School Athletics



The seventh and eighth grade boys met weekly for intramural activities.

Seventh, eighth, and ninth grade boys worked out in two separate intramurals groups. They formed basketball, baseball, football, volleyball, and field hockey teams for competition. In addition, they worked out on the horse and even parallel bars, performing different routines from the girls. They also wrestled and practiced rope climbing. They came in looking like Clark Kent and left looking like Superman!



It's not too tough to direct the activity — right, Mr. Schaffer?



Eighth graders get a kickball workout.



Which way's up? Wrestlers get confused.



Eighth and ninth grade boys, directed by Mr. Denny and Mr. McKeeman, released their energy every Wednesday in intramurals.



Calisthenics stretch reluctant muscles.

In the Beginning . . .



. . . at the End



Past... Ahead...

To a seventh grader: past... coming to new school...
taking new subjects... learning to get along with
people...

Ahead: two more years at Portage... looking forward
to not being a Baby Ram...

To an eighth grader: past... having been a Ram for two
years... spending time with friends... learning new

things...

Ahead: first year of high school... choosing subjects...
collecting bugs... thinking of Elmhurst...

To a ninth grader: past... three years in Ram land...
collecting bugs (yuk!)... memorable sports seasons
... strange times... happy times...

Ahead: Elmhurst... meeting people... growing up...
remembering Portage...

Leslie Novitsky

Editor-in-Chief

[illegible]

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